



# Defining Family

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1. Gittens -- a universal family?
2. Lichter and Qian: Relationship bt economy & family structure
3. Distinct images of families in US culture



# Gittens

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- What is a functionalist definition of family?
- Take each element of this dfn – what if any evidence is there that this is not a good basis for a dfn of family?
- Is there any universality in concepts of family? If yes, what?



## Lichter and Qian

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Argued that family change is related to economic change. Explain this economic model. Do you think it is a convincing argument? Why? Why not?



## 3 images of family in U.S. Society

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- What are the images according to Baca Zinn?
- Which do you think is the strongest/most prevalent among your peer group? Among your family groups? Among society at large? Why? Consequences of these images?